

Amendments to the Abstract

Please **add** the following Abstract to this application.

-- There is provided a method of diversity error control coding for a system having variable-length packets that carry prioritized data. High priority packets in a data sequence are replicated to form virtual replications. Parity symbols are generated from the data sequence and from the virtual replications, and tag information is generated that indicates a number of the virtual replications used to generate the parity symbols, for subsequent transmission of only the data sequence, the parity symbols, and the tag information to reconstruct the data sequence.--